Wisconsin

Through its Bureau of Solid Waste Management, the Wisconsin Depart ment of Natural Resources licenses all landfills annually. New landfills mus have clay liners and leachate collection systems, and recent ground wate protection legislation authorizes the department to require the installatioi of monitoring systems around existing landfills. Wisconsin also imposes i tax on landfills that have not entered into an agreement to close by 1995. It i designed as an incentive to phase out use of small town landfills that have n< monitoring. The department also has a program designed to encourage solic waste recycling with a state recycling coordinator.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The committee finds that both nonhazardous and hazardous solid wast< disposed of on land are major contributors to ground water contamination However, the quantities of waste needing disposal in landfills can be re duced through recycling, incineration, and resource recovery facilities.

The committee recommends that states and communities consider such meth ods of reducing waste quantities, but only as part of an integrated environmen tal management program with monitoring requirements, discharge or emissioi limits, and ambient environmental quality standards for both ground water an< air resources that use comparable concepts of risk assessment.

Underground Storage Tanks

Underground tanks are widely used for interim storage of toxic and haz ardous materials. They are also used, less commonly, for storage of toxic an< hazardous wastes. These tanks, found in and near every population cente and transportation corridor, pose a significant and continuing threat t< ground water resources.

Some state and local programs designed to protect aquifers from leakin; underground storage tanks (LUST) have existed for many years. Neverthe less, incidents of leaking tanks and aquifer damage have increased in num ber and severity. Mounting concern has resulted in regulatory action b EPA, as well as strengthened and innovative programs in a number o states. State and local programs generally incorporate two parallel strate gies: (1) provision for identification and control of existing undergroum tanks and (2) regulation of the siting, design, construction, and monitorin of new tanks.